

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5358
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2008
LOWER QUANTITY OF PACKAGED GOODS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the manufacturers of branded items have reduced the weight of the goods in packets whereas the prices have remained the same as before;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) to (c): The attention of the Government has been drawn to media reports which state that manufacturers have reduced quantities of packaged goods while holding price constant.

In respect of commodities not listed in the Third schedule of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977, the manufacturers can pack in any quantities. However for commodities listed in the Third schedule to the Rules, Rule 5 provide that if a commodity specified in the Third Schedule is packed in a size other than that specified in that schedule, a declaration 'Not a Standard pack size under the Standard of Weights & Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rule 1977, or 'non standard size under the Standard of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rule 1977# is made on the package by the manufacturer

To bring awareness to the consumers in this regard, an advertisement was issued on all India basis in the print media in the recent past. Apart from that the Department has also sent an advisory to Controller of Legal Metrology of all States/Union Territories for proper enforcement of the provisions of the Rules.